

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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Mistaken Activity

The Democratic campaign managers, L. L. McCandless and W. A. Bryan, may have the best intentions in the world of getting the new Democratic and new Republican supervisors together in a friendly caucus, but this is not a time for such political activity.

Neither the Democratic nor the Republican campaign committees or managers, nor the politicians as individuals, should "horn into" the situation. Let the politicians with axes to grind keep off, and the new supervisors will reach harmonious agreement and begin an administration efficiently.

It is a mistake—a tactical mistake and a practical mistake—for the Democratic campaign managers to invite the Republican supervisors-elect to a caucus with the Democrats. Their intentions may have been entirely proper and the invitation may come from them merely because the mayor-elect is too ill to act for his party, but the effect is obviously bad. The effect is to create the impression, rightly or wrongly, that the new administration is to be run not by the mayor and the supervisors but by the campaign committees.

If this theory is tried, it will wreck the new administration just as surely as the sun rises over Oahu.

If the Republican campaign committee expects the Republicans of the new administration to be successful, it will keep hands off. It will not try to formulate their policies or to speak for them in the slightest degree.

If the Democratic campaign committee expects the Democrats to work harmoniously and effectively with the Republicans, it will also keep hands off. It will not try to dictate appointments or influence the attitude of the two Democratic supervisors.

The people of Honolulu are sick and tired of the interference in local administration by party campaign organizations. It has been a failure toward getting better government and it will be a failure again.

The seven supervisors have ample intelligence to get together and talk over their problems, without the necessity of a campaign committee assuming the functions of guide or chaperone. And when the Democratic political managers write to the Republican political manager attempting to arrange a caucus, the effect is hurtful to the new administration, for it gives the definite impression that the party organizations are to take the leadership in city affairs.

As stated above, the invitation may have been extended in the utmost good faith but it is a mistaken policy to pursue and the sooner the two party committees get out of the spotlight and leave the new supervisors with free hands the better it will be for Honolulu.

EXPOSING STRIKE-LEADERS.

Capt. William Matson's repudiation of the "agreement" he was alleged by Charles Holoua to have made for a raise in wages to stevedores here adds another proof to the rapidly accumulating evidence that the stevedores are led by men in whom they can place no trust.

Holoua and his associates, including professional agitators who are working selfishly for themselves, have been volubly declaring that Capt. Matson in San Francisco promised a wage increase, and they have been threatening a strike. Talk of a labor agitator from the coast coming here was spread around in order to get support from the rank and file of the longshoremen in the belief that the mainland longshoremen would stand by local action.

A little group of labor agitators here is making all the trouble for the Honolulu workmen, and the sooner the workmen realize this and get rid of the walking-delegate bunch, the better for themselves and their families.

In virtually every trade in the city the employers, where their business could meet increased "overhead" expense, have met the employees half way with increase in wages to help solve the high cost of living problem. The employees did not need to talk of strikes or to employ union agitators. They approached the subject in a reasonable, fair way and in most cases the increases were voluntarily given.

The stevedores have chosen so far to use the strike threat method. A few union agitators are claiming to represent several hundred men, and are making noise enough for several thousand.

How long will the honest, efficient and capable waterfront laborers allow themselves to be used by men who are continually getting them in trouble with their employers? The exposure of the Holoua claims shows that they cannot trust this leadership.

"Sunny Jim" McCandless is evidently making his usual hit at the annual Shriner conclave, held this year at Minneapolis. Honolulu is said to be in the running for the gathering, which means that "Sunny Jim," with his leis, his pineapple juice, his promotion literature and his overflowing geniality is "on the job" with his regular stunt of an Hawaiian headquarters where everybody is welcome.

Signs are not wanting that the summer in Honolulu is to have its interesting little happenings.

Every time a couple of congressmen get together they think up a new war-tax.

Spain gets over one crisis just in time to come down with another.

Food control appears to be large a matter of drink control.

Why Uncle Sam Will Control Food

President Wilson's insistence on the passage of a strong food control bill is backed by other members of his administration. Secretary of Agriculture Houston, in a recent statement, put the situation as follows—and it is well to remember what he says as it furnishes the reason for the pressure on Congress to pass the food control bill without delay:

"Cooperating as we are with the nations of Europe in the war against the Central Powers," said Secretary Houston, "the task of maintaining the subsistence of the Allies is at once a political and moral obligation and a military necessity. War is always destructive of production and, in a peculiar sense, it is destructive of the production of foodstuffs, since war leads to a scarcity of labor and labor is one of the chief factors in cultivation of the soil.

"In addition, the wheat crop of practically the entire world has suffered serious reduction during the past year; and the prospects for the coming year promise little or no increase in the production of this essential cereal.

"One of two courses lies open to our government. The first is to continue as we are at present, that is, to permit unhampered the abnormal operations of trade, rendered all the more abnormal because of the needs of the Allies for foodstuffs from this country. The second plan consists in the regulation or control of our foodstuffs to the double end of maintenance of the subsistence of the Allies and the protection of the food needs and commercial interests of our own people.

"The bills now pending in Congress provide for systematic development of our productive forces and an adequate control of distribution and consumption, to the end of conserving for ourselves and for the Allies the foodstuffs provided through the stimulation of agriculture."

Secretary Houston describes the first food bill as a measure to stimulate production and the second as one to control distribution. What is to be accomplished under each is given at length.

THRIFT—NOT PARSIMONY.

When the war is finished we will have some debt to meet, and it is proposed to meet this war expense by taxation on business and personal profits. The burden of taxation; the speed with which the war debt can be eliminated—wiped off the slate—and the resumption of our usual activities, all depend on business moving right along in conservative channels. If business is not kept going along lines profitable to the business world, the first to suffer will be our armies, for upon active business depends the resources that will carry our arms to victory.

Thrift or economy is a commendable virtue, but it can be carried to a point where it becomes foolish, and has been very properly designated "panic parsimony." The brand of economy that counts at the present time consists of avoiding all waste of food of whatsoever nature; consume all the good food that has been purchased; keep up the little garden patch with renewed vigor, and replant the spot immediately from which a crop has been garnered. And no family can go far wrong by an elimination of all intoxicants during the war.

The epitome of conversation is along the food line. From this direction are we threatened. We are not short of the usual supplies for the home or person, such as are purchased when needed. Of these commodities we have plenty. Even of money there is no real, fancied or theoretical shortage.

We hear of people every day who are going without necessary things, for fear that the war, as it progresses, will create hard times. Buy carefully but not in niggardly fashion; using your usual good judgment in the selection of things needed for the household. By this you will be doing your part and doing it well.

THE USES OF THE LIBERTY LOAN.

To the American citizen who gives some consideration to features of his investments other than the mere money return from them, the uses to which the money raised by the sale of the Liberty Loan Bonds is to be devoted will prove a patriotic inducement to purchase such bonds. A certain dignity attaches to money invested in a high and noble cause.

The Liberty Loan is made by the United States government to purchase arms and equipment for American soldiers and sailors, food and supplies for the American Army and Navy. The money is to be spent in America for those Americans who are fighting America's battles on land and sea.

Part of the money raised by the sale of Liberty Loan Bonds is to be loaned to our Allies; this too is to be expended in America. It is to be spent for food and supplies for the armies of our Allies fighting on our side on the various war fronts in Europe. It is America's first contribution towards doing her part in the war we are engaged in.

It is billions for defense in the world-wide war autocracy is waging against democracy, but not one cent for tribute.

Optimists, we like to think that the presence of the Root commission on Russian soil may help that perplexed country to find its true self.—New Haven Journal-Courier.

"Fourteen Million More Than Asked Given Red Cross," says a headline, but that didn't happen in Hawaii. We have still to raise our "quota."

No meaner man exists on earth than the black-mailer.

Letters OF TIMELY TOPICS

RECENT GOVERNORSHIP DEVELOPMENTS

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Dear Sir: I do not know that the action of the Democratic party as a whole, in its "drive on the governorship," as reported in your Monday evening's issue, need cause much surprise to any one here.

It's the same old tune on the same old fiddle, played again with slight, very slight variations, indeed. Messrs. McCandless and Bryan on the floor—the rest of the standpat Democrats "beat" it over in the hoo-down.

What might surprise the most of us is the attitude of men like Richard H. Trent and S. C. Huber.

I certainly expected something different from both of them. While the former did say to me a few days ago, that he preferred not to antagonize others in his candidacy, he still acknowledged that he would be glad to accept the governorship were such the wish of the people and the pleasure of the president.

So far as I can see, the action of the Democratic caucus has in no way altered the "wish of the people" or indicated the "pleasure of the president."

Mr. Wilson, likely, is of the same mind regarding Messrs. Bryan and McCandless that he was some months ago.

In this indorsement, Mr. Trent sees all signs of the territory's needs. He thinks only of the candidate's; the man's interests against those of all Hawaii.

We are supposed to have in our executive a man who regards all the people as his wards, whether they be Democratic or Republican, and yet Mr. Trent says Mr. Bryan and Mr. McCandless are, presumably, any other Democrat "indorsed" by the party, "both deserve honor at the hands of the party."

Is this the sop we are to give party men for assiduously seeking their own political preferment?

Is "Mr. McCandless for many years has not only contributed financially with regularity and liberality, but has been a hard worker for the party organization," the sort of a recommendation we have to offer the man whom we ask the president to appoint as governor of Hawaii?

As much could be said for any Tammany candidate for office.

Mr. Trent knows that Mr. McCandless is in no respect qualified for the office of governor of this territory.

As a business man who believes in qualification and efficiency, would Mr. Trent dare say that Mr. McCandless possesses these qualities in a degree to make him a safe chief executive of Hawaii?

This territory is a most difficult one to govern, and it is likely that during the next term affairs here will be unusually difficult to administer.

And Mr. Trent knows, if he does not acknowledge, that Mr. McCandless has worked not for the interests of good citizenship in Hawaii, or even for honest and responsible party efficiency, but for L. L. McCandless, first, last and always.

McCandless for delegate over and over again, for governor; McCandless for something—or BUST.

It is true, as Mr. Trent says, that the United States government is administered by parties, but only in so far as it becomes unpartisan is it most effective.

Owing to a growing sense of responsibility, national and municipal government administration is becoming unpartisan.

Mr. Cleveland repudiated the "spoils" system on several occasions, and by civil service reforms we are slowly overcoming the pernicious, short-sighted policy of "rewarding" politicians at the expense of the public.

"Deserve the honor!"

What about the territory's honor and deserving?

Should the interests of all our people be jeopardized in order to "honor" one citizen?

A very good evidence of the growing sense of civic righteousness in the United States was the almost universal condemnation by the press, Republican and Democratic alike, of Mr. Bryan's letter on "spoils."

Mr. Trent's statement to your reporter ties him down to the most objectionable tenet held by the local Democratic party.

It is an unprogressive and unintelligent creed; a sop to lower and unenlightened, selfish grades of citizenship.

There are hundreds of Democrats here who do not accept it; and some of the best have personally expressed to me their disapproval of it.

That the governorship of Hawaii should fall to Mr. Bryan or Mr. McCandless or anybody else simply because they are good party men, is the veriest boob—if it isn't worse.

And what is more, like most of the political measures adopted by the Democratic party in the past, it is a

mighty bad party measure, and will not help either Mr. Bryan or Mr. McCandless, or later, Mr. Trent—to the governorship of Hawaii.

It eliminates them as candidates having the least chance of appointment.

In so far as Governor Pinkham has followed purely party lines, he has erred. His dropping Lloyd Conkling for a Democrat (though the Democrat was a capable one) was not approved in Washington.

And every time Mr. Pinkham has made appointments without regard to "the burden of party work" borne by the appointee, he has acted in a public-spirited way.

Before I spoke to Mr. Trent, a Democratic friend who knows him well, told me that Mr. Trent was a Republican "without knowing it;" by this he meant that Mr. Trent, the good citizen, businessman, and Christian gentleman, would not be run by a political machine which here, to say the least, is no better than it is elsewhere.

In other words, that Mr. Trent would give us an administration which men of all political parties could support.

Evidently, from his own statement, Mr. Trent is not that kind of a man, and I withdraw all I said in his favor relating to the governorship.

We were just beginning to think that in Mr. S. C. Huber we had a big duck for our little pond.

It seems, however, that the Democratic quack is inevitable.

I'm disappointed, and my right to be so is due solely to the fact that as a private American citizen of Hawaii I ought to be disappointed.

If Mr. Huber is correctly quoted, his position is even weaker than that of Mr. Trent, because Mr. Huber is apparently misinformed.

It is too bad that a man who can say such good things so well as he has been saying them to us, should utter such fallacies as: "It would be absolutely wrong to allow Democrats or Democratic influences to have weight in the selection of Republican appointees, and equally so to allow Republicans to determine the selection of Democratic appointees."

In other words, no matter what the emergency as to fitness for particular office, during a Democratic regime, no good Republican citizen should be considered as adviser or for appointment, and vice versa.

Mr. Wilson himself has said something the exact opposite.

So in equally strong language have Jefferson, Webster and Lincoln. A creed like Mr. Huber's is not only incompatible with good citizenship, it is more dangerous to our country than its wars have been, because it is insidious; it is more of a menace to equitable administration of public affairs than the Germans whom we are about to "spank."

Only in so far as we get away from the "spoils" system are we safe as a government and a nation.

Personally, says Mr. Huber, he has "nothing against Mr. Pinkham."

This means that he does not approve of Mr. Pinkham officially. And yet before our young voters Mr. Huber declared that "if he (Pinkham) received the same indorsement (as Messrs. Bryan and McCandless) he would be behind him as strong as any other Democrat."

Evidently all Democrats are of one piece. They are Democrats and nothing more.

I'd be sorry to say this of Republicans.

Speaking as supervisor the other day, Mott-Smith told me that political affiliations would have no bearing whatever upon the eligibility of candidates for office here.

We need not fear an official who takes this stand.

The man who enunciates the contrary is not the kind of a man we want for governor, and, what is better, is not the sort of a governor we're going to have.

Mr. Huber says there is no "special significance" in his reading of the resolution.

But there is in his approval thereof, and when he goes on to say that the president and secretary of the interior are anxious to know the will of the people, does he believe that this Democratic indorsement of the same old war-horses, Bryan and McCandless, is an expression of the will of the people, or even of all the Democrats of Hawaii? Surely it is to laugh!

Talk like this sounds bad after what we read of political progress, and after what we hear from patriotic platforms.

I am particularly sorry, because I have been asked to take up a course in patriotism and good citizenship among our voters of alien races, and I was counting upon the help of men like Mr. Huber and Mr. Trent.

In the face of this, Dr. Raymond's disqualifications, seem "light as air," anyway they are purely temperamental.

A little fighting would be prefer

To Do Things

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The net paid circulation of the 5921 Star-Bulletin on April 26 was

THE CHEERFUL CHERUB

When I look back along my life I see my troubles helped me grow. I hope that I'll remember that when in the midst of future woes.



able to absolute subordination to Democratic methods.

In every essential I should say now that Dr. Raymond is away ahead of any other candidate in the field, supposing, of course, that the governor does not accept reappointment.

E. S. GOODHUE.

PERSONALITIES

MRS. J. H. BOLE of Honolulu is now registered at Camp Curry in the Yosemite.

MISS FLORENCE LEE, for the last several years in charge of the domestic science department of the College of Hawaii, has resigned and will leave for the mainland next month to join relatives in the East.

GEORGE S. RAYMOND, supervising principal of the Maui schools, is recovering rapidly from a sprained

ankle which has kept him confined to the Queen's hospital for the last two weeks. He is now able to be about with the aid of crutches.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

—DR. R. HOPPE: I have a number of friends in Honolulu whom I have been trying to visit for years.

—CHARLES S. ASH: I have a crazy desire to get a glimpse of any thing reporters write before it goes into print.

—CAPT. A. C. CHRISTENSEN: I brought over about 30 men to man the Elissa and I suppose there will be room for a few more.

—R. W. PERKINS: When flour sells for over \$100 a sack that's going some, but wait until we see what the Shriners' sack brings in Honolulu.

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